

Application No.: 10/639,619
Art Unit: 2875

Attorney Docket No. 21873.00
Confirmation No. 7410

REMARKS

By the present amendment, Applicant has amended Claims 1 and 6, and cancelled Claim 5. Independent Claim 1, with Claims 2-4, 6 and 7 depending therefrom, will remain for consideration.

In the recent Office Action the Examiner rejected Claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Chen. Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen. Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen in view of Burroughs et al. Claims 5 was objected to for lacking clear antecedent basis for a recited term "the bottom". Claims 6 and 7 were also objected to because they depend from objected Claim 5. The indication by the Examiner that Claims 5-7 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objection and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims is noted with appreciation.

Applicant has amended independent Claim 1 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of Claim 5, and cancelled Claim 5. Claim 6 has been amended to now depend from Claim -1-. Regarding the objection to Claim 5, the language used in incorporating the allowable subject matter of Claim 5 into Claim 1 has been corrected to provide a clear antecedent basis for the term "bottom portion". Applicant respectfully submits that for at least these reasons, amended independent Claim 1 and its corresponding dependent Claims 2-4, 6 and 7 are allowable over the prior art applied of record.

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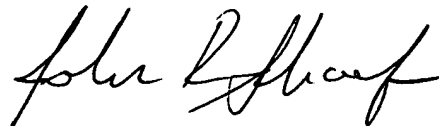
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The Examiner objected to the drawings because they do not include reference number "72" that was mentioned in the specification, and because they include reference number (77) not mentioned in the specification. The specification has been amended to replace an incorrect reference to the reference number 72 with a correct reference to the reference number 77. Additionally, the Examiner objected to the specification for an incorrect reference to the reference number 44. The specification has been amended to replace the incorrect reference to the reference number 44 with a correct reference to the reference number --38--.

The Examiner objected to the specification for improper language at Page 11, lines 14 and 15. The specification has been amended to more clearly describe the interaction of the "L" shaped post and the outer sleeve.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. If such is not the case, the Examiner is requested to kindly contact the undersigned in an effort to satisfactorily conclude the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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JRS:dht